MONTEREY NEWS

March 2018
Est. 1970 Vol. XLVIII · Number 3

Pick up at: the library (in and outside), town hall, community center, Roadside Cafe, Bracken-Brae farm stand (in-season), Swap Shop

Gold finches with early breeding plummage. Spring is coming. Photos by Maureen Banner.

Daylight Savings Time
"Spring Ahead"
Sunday, March 11, at 2 a.m.

There's plenty of work to do. We need you to do it. Volunteer as a candidate.
Monterey Needs You page 2

There has been no program in the Monterey School for three years, and there is no program planned for the upcoming school year.
To Be or Not to Be? page 4

The McLaughlin-Wilson fund awarded $66,500 in 2017.
McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarships page 11

My advice to everyone is—take one day at a time, and with inner strength, courage, and faith, you will get through this. Never forget, you're not alone.
Race for the Cure page 13

Immigration has repeatedly brought out the best and the worst in America. That appears likely to continue.
A Tale of Two Tales pages 20-21

Capturing the more personal stories of the past and filling in the back story are what lets us draw threads from our ancestors' lives.
Community Potluck Supper page 7

I'd suggest some older walls that yet hold, and more in a spirit of sanctuary than of fortress.
From the Meetinghouse pages 18-19

The old adage tells us when one door is closed, another one opens, so we'll have to wait and see.
Monterey General Store page 21

Don't be late as we have children in this town who are fast at finding and collecting them all.
Library News page 5

We even heard tell of a special version of Monopoly that features our own town of Monterey.
Cure for Winter Woes page 14

Fur and Feathers pages 22-23

you,
a face of groundswell,
groundswell fulfilling prophecy
Across My Country page 10

What does the raven say? Not "Nevermore," that's for sure. Do not trust a poet. The voice of the raven is often hoarse, giving a croak.
Quoth the Raven page 12

Corvids are everywhere this month.

Town Elections 2108

Below is a list of the various seats that will be up for election this May.

Zoning Board of Appeals 5 years
Board of Assessors 3 years
Board of Assessors 2 years
Board of Health 3 years
Cemetery Commission 3 years
Finance Committee 3 years
Library Trustee(2) 3 years
Moderator 1 year
Parks Commission(2) 3 years
Parks Commission 2 years
Planning Board 5 years
Select Board 3 years
Tree Warden 1 year

Candidate Statements

Town elections are upon us once again. Elections for town offices are on Tuesday, May 8, following town meeting the prior Saturday. If you have been nominated for an office, or filed nomination papers for yourself, you may want to publish a candidate's statement in the *Monterey News*. The paper will be happy to publish candidate statements in either the April or May issue.

The *News* would also be pleased to publish letters of support for candidates. It would be helpful if you know of others who are intending to write in support of the same candidate to agree on one letter to be published.

Also, please feel free to offer a perspective on any issues to be decided at town meeting by sending a letter to the *News*. Part of the mission of the paper is to encourage community conversations.

The deadline for the *Monterey News* is typically on the 20th of each month. Your letters must be signed, and can be emailed (preferred) to MontereyNews9@gmail.com, or sent first class, to PO Box 9, Monterey, MA 01245.

Monterey Needs You

The Democratic Town Committee will meet on Saturday, March 10, at 10:30 a.m., in the Monterey church basement, to finalize our candidate list for town offices.

Talk to your neighbors and friends about running for a local office. This year we will vote for a select board member, a library trustee, and members for several town boards—assessors, finance committee, zoning board of appeals, cemetery commission, parks commission, planning board, and tree warden.

Identify others who might want to work with and for our town. Bring new people with you.

—Pat Salomon, MD
Democratic Town Committee

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Kitchen/Bath Design
Construction Management
Project Representation
413.528.4960 17 Mahaiwe Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230

Town Clerk News

Annual Census

The annual census was mailed out in January. This is just a reminder to make any changes, sign, and return to the town clerk as soon as possible. If your census is not returned by May, voters will be placed on an inactive list. You will be allowed to vote at the next election by signing an "Affirmation of Current and Continuous Residence in Monterey." By doing so, I will then have a correct mailing address for all households and voters in Monterey. Please contact me if you did not receive an annual census.

Rabies Clinic

The annual rabies clinic will be held on Saturday, March 24, at the Monterey Fire Station, from 9 a.m. to noon.

- Dogs Neutered or Spayed—$4
- Dogs Not Neutered or Spayed—$10
- Rabies vaccinations to be available.

Dog Licenses

Thanks to everyone for the prompt response licensing their dogs. I have licensed seventy-five dogs, which is phenomenal for February. Please remember that all dogs not licensed by May 1 will be charged a $25 fee, or $50 if the dog doesn't have a current rabies vaccination.

—Terry Walker
Town Clerk

Woodruff Mountain
Landscaping
Whether you are looking to renovate, rejuvenate, or just simply maintain your existing landscape, please contact Woodruff Mountain Landscaping to help you.
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Knox Gallery

Intersections, which features the work of Leslie Carsewell, opened on January 19 and is on view through Saturday, March 3. Carsewell, who has lived in the Berkshires for over fifteen years, works in collage and drawing, refining her compositions, which further evolve into her paintings. The Knox Gallery and the Monterey Library appreciate the nice press for Carsewell's exhibit, and thank all who have visited the show.

Deborah Pressman's *Lines in the Landscape* opens on March 9. The reception for this exhibit will be held several weeks later, on Saturday evening, April 14, from 6 to 7:30. Please mark your calendars and join us.

Pressman grew up in a family that loved art and visited museums regularly, which led her to study photography at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, where she received her BFA. She took a major detour in her late 20s—she attended medical school and subsequently practiced internal medicine for thirty-three years. Now retired, she has returned to her first love, and is a full time artist.

A member of a silversmith collaborative at Motherbrook Art Center in Dedham, MA, Pressman and her fellow metalworkers met and befriended Michael and Maureen Banner, Monterey's master silversmiths, through the Banners' reputations and active craft show participation.

Deborah Pressman's acrylic on wood reflect her love of landscapes. ©Deborah Pressman

About ten years ago Michael Banner began making regular visits to teach the group, helping them with design and technique. These artists also love to come to Monterey where they can work with their mentor on his home turf, take advantage of Maureen Banner's expertise on enamelwork and, of course, enjoy the Banners' nonpareil hospitality and good cooking. These Banner protegés have also enthusiastically supported the Monterey Community Center with both financial and moral support.

Pressman's current paintings on display at the Knox are rendered in acrylic on wooden panels and reflect her love of the seaside, farmland, and mountain landscapes.

All exhibits can be viewed during library hours. Knox Gallery, Monterey Library, MontereyMassLibrary.org/knox-gallery/ 452 Main Road, Monterey, MA, 413-528-3795. Facebook.com/Knox Gallery Instagram.com/knoxgallery @ Knox_Gallery on Twitter.

—MaryPaul Yates

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To Be or Not to Be?
Monterey's School

Important meetings to discuss the future of the Monterey School, will be held on Tuesday, March 6, at 7 p.m., and Wednesday, March 21, at 7 p.m., at the Monterey Town Hall

There has been much discussion regarding the future of small town schools within Southern Berkshire Regional School District (SBRSD). There has been no program in the Monterey School for the past three school years, and there is no program planned for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year. The student census and distribution make it clear that although many of us have great sentimental attachment and fond memories of our kindergarten, there is likely no justification for a program in Monterey in the foreseeable future.

The Monterey Select Board, in consultation with the SBRSD and Shawn Tryon, our Director of Operations, has been exploring options for maintenance and repairs on the Monterey school building. To bring the building up to reasonable standards for use will require extensive and extremely expensive work. The cost and responsibility for any work done would be borne by the town.

Even if the building could be brought to a serviceable level, the decision to re-open then rests with the five-town school committee members. The town would need to somehow demonstrate that there are enough students to populate the school on an ongoing basis to merit the considerable expense of staffing, transportation, and equipment. I have been attending school district meetings, and in discussion with various officials about enrollment data, program offerings, and feedback from families, this seems impossible.

It is not up to the select board to determine the fate of the Monterey School, it is up to the residents and voters. We will present the facts and realistic prospects. Should the town spend potentially hundreds of thousands of dollars for repairs and maintenance and attempt to re-open the school?

To further highlight the importance of our March 6 meeting, the SBRSD has put the town of Monterey on notice that there will be upcoming meetings which are intended to begin the process to determine whether to close the school, according to the specific guidelines in the regional agreement.

A meeting to discuss our school will be held in the Monterey Town Hall on Tuesday, March 20, at 7 p.m. The topic will then be taken up by the school committee at the Mt. Everett school on Wednesday, March 28, at 6 p.m.

For more information contact Carol Edelman or MaryEllen Brown, Monterey's school committee representative. Thank you for your attention to this matter of concern to all of us in Monterey, and throughout the five towns. We look forward to seeing you Tuesday, March 6, at 7 p.m, at town hall.

—Carol Edelman
Select Board

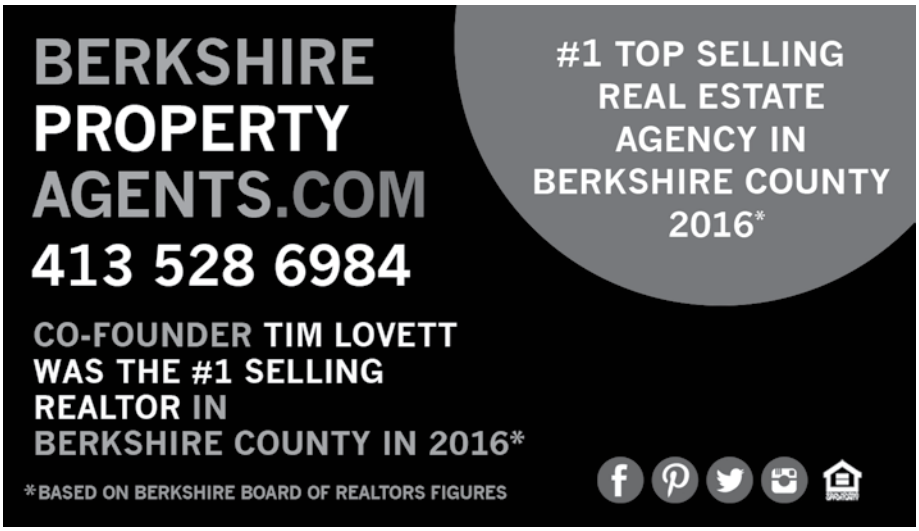
School District News

Middle School Task Force

The Middle School Task Force (MSTF) is underway. The MSTF includes district and building administrators, members of the district leadership team, faculty and staff, parents/guardians, school committee, and community members. Data from many sources—school committee members, staff, community feedback, surveys, meetings, performance data, changes in the standards, enrollment trends, and other data—all point towards a focus on the middle school environment to consider whether or not the sixth grade would be better served there or in an elementary model.

The charge for the task force is to review the current middle school program, and to examine and propose a reconfigured middle level program that includes grade six. There will be many opportunities for input and feedback throughout the process. Decisions, including the timing of grade transitions and the implementation of new programs, will be made with the students' needs and their best interests in mind as the first priority. Information will be posted to

Consider reporting on these meetings for the Monterey News. *The* News *needs readers who are willing to occasionally report on individual events around town. This includes not only meetings about town issues, but other social and cultural events. If you attended or participated in an interesting event, write about it and send it to the* News *at montereynews9@gmail.com. Other readers will surely be pleased to read your reports. —Editor*



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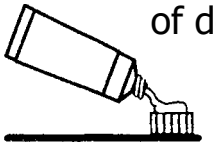
Dentist

All phases
of dentistry



528-6520

Route 23 Monterey

the sbrsd.org website, under the "District" tab, "Middle School Task Force." Through this link you can also submit comments and concerns to the MSTF for review and consideration.

School Resource Officer

The school committee approved the appointment of Officer Tricia Zucco as a part-time school resource officer (SRO) as of February 1. The goal is to provide increased resources dedicated to the safety and wellbeing of students and staff. Officer Zucco will be leading classes for students on safety, security, decision making, substance abuse awareness, and other topics, which will be delivered in an age-appropriate way.

Officer Zucco hopes to build relationships with students and staff through her work in the classroom, before and after school, and at games and other school events. Research indicates that when students feel safe and secure, and when children can identify with at least one adult in the school, their achievement and educational experience improves.

Chief Munson and Officer Zucco will continue to support the district with our safety drills, physical plant security, updates to our safety protocols, and trainings. Zucco has been working in the New Marlborough Central School as the nurse during the middle of the day, and plans to continue that work. In an effort to provide parents and community members with an opportunity to meet Officer Zucco, the district is planning coffee with the SRO & Friends on Monday, March 12, at 6 p.m., in the Eagle's Loft.

Budget

The 2018-2019 budget process is well underway. In February, we prepared a preliminary budget, as is required, a month before the budget hearing and vote of approval, which is scheduled for Thursday, March 15. Townspeople of the district's five towns—Alford, Egremont, Monterey, New Marlborough, and Sheffield—vote on the budget at their town meetings, which are all scheduled to begin in the first weeks of May.

The preliminary budget was presented with a 2.28% increase and represents a level service budget for fiscal year 2019. In an effort to provide the most up to date information, the budget documents can be found at sbrsd.org/budget, or from the SBRSD homepage website under the "District" tab, "Budget."

As always, I am happy to answer any questions that I can.

—Beth Regulbuto
Superintendent of SBRSD

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Monterey Library Notes

Annual Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 1, at 1 p.m., the library will have our annual egg hunt. This will likely be the last one at this location with the grounds as they are now, so don't miss it. The Friends of the Library, with help from the Monterey Coffee Club, usually hide around five hundred eggs. Don't be late as we have children in this town who are fast at finding and collecting them all.

Permitting Moving Forward

This progress update on the building project is not going to be able to adequately describe the amount of work that was put into the project recently. Our design process is rapidly coming to a close. We have taken everyone's input and, combined with the regulations, worked the plan down to many of the finer details. At the moment, the plan is at the estimators, so hopefully we can know what we can expect when we put it out to bid. We have been scheduling hearings with various town boards and officials and should make a lot of progress in March on the permitting front. We want to thank all of the town officials who have helped move the plans forward. Our designers, who have the difficult job of making the construction comply with not only building codes, library standards, and environmental regulations, but also the wants and needs of the town, also deserve a big thanks.

We'll Need Volunteers

In the coming months we will be needing volunteer help to clean out the library and get ready for the move. Stay tuned to the website, montereymasslibrary.org, and make sure to sign up for the Friends of the Library emails so you will know the schedule and how you can help! There will be many ways for all of you to get involved, no matter your size or age.

—Mark Makuc
Library Director
MontereyMassLibrary.org

Broadband Committee
March Update

We wish to thank all of the residents who participated in the discussion on February 16 with the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) along with the select board and broadband committee. This was another step along the path towards deployment of a full high speed broadband Internet infrastructure in Monterey.

As most readers know, there is a private company, Fiber Connect, working to deliver services to a large percentage of the premises in town. The state grant monies are needed to complete the project to a minimum of 96% of the premises. There are no other bidders/providers currently demonstrating an active interest in Monterey.

As a result of the meeting, there is a slightly clearer path for Monterey to have the MBI monies allocated towards completion of the project. There is a goal of March 15 to have a number of alternative proposals submitted to MBI for their review.

At this point in time, there is only one solution in Monterey, and that is based on Fiber Connect's efforts. It is the broadband committee's intention to pursue completion of the project with Fiber Connect as primary provider of broadband services in our town.

—Cliff Weiss, Chair
Broadband committee

Monterey Meets MBI
An All-Parties Meeting

They came together on February 15 at the Monterey Town Hall out of a sense of frustration on both sides. Peter Larkin, chair of the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI), requested the meeting with the Monterey Select Board to discuss how they could move forward along a more productive pathway to help the town secure state funding for a high-speed internet network. Attending were select board members Steven Weisz and Kenn Basler. (Board member Carol Edelman is recused from discussing the broadband issues and so was not able to be present.) The Monterey Broadband Committee members at the meeting included Cliff Weiss, BJ Johnson, George Cain. (Basler is also a member of the broadband committee.)

Many unfulfilled years of back and forth meetings, requirement changes, discussions, and exchanged letters, with little progress to show, have brought the Town of Monterey to this unsettling moment, and they needed answers to their questions from MBI now. For example, one Monterey resident raised the point that the initial legislation was passed in 2008 as an "emergency" provision. When the MBI representatives were asked how many of the forty-plus underserved towns are currently being served after all this time, as the result of MBI, they were only able to point to a handful of western MA towns that are currently being served.

The audience of about twenty-five people, peppered with a few town residents, state representative Smitty Pignatelli, and broadband service providers including Fiber Connect, the private company currently building a network in Monterey, and interested people from New Marlborough and Egremont (MBI was to meet with New Marlbrough that afternoon), listened intently while opening remarks were made by both sides. Select board chair Steven Weisz stated four points that he takes very seriously as part of his fiduciary responsibility to the town when considering a service provider. He wants to know that the provider (1) has the technical know how, (2) provides affordable costs—especially for those homeowners on a fixed income, (3) can install a viable high speed network, and (4) is financially sustainable on a long-term basis.

Select board member Kenn Basler interjected that having a working network now is more important than the company who builds it out in the town. Cliff Weiss, chair of the broadband committee, tried to speak to the broadband committee's views, but Larken stated that he would prefer to hear from the select board, in a united voice, as he believed there to be a disagreement on the select board.

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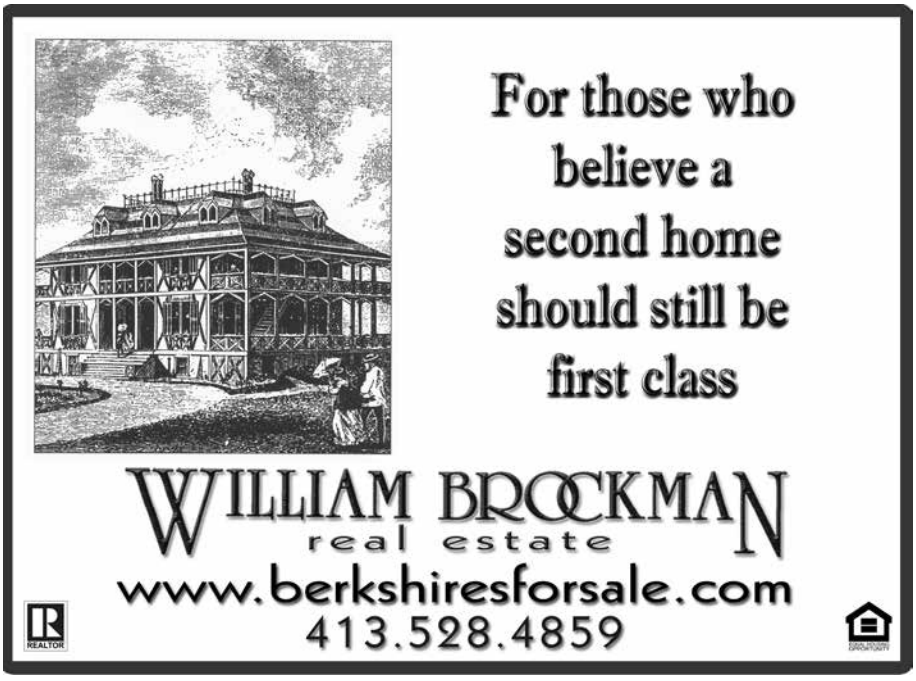
Basler then explained that the broadband committee was appointed by the select board to gather information and make a recommendation to the select board so both boards speak in one voice. This is now the case, so, going forward, what the town needs to know is how to secure the $1.2 million in allocated state grant funds to help the town build a high speed network now, rather than waiting one or even two more years down the road for yet another provider solution to appear. The discussion then focused on the topics of finances and service providers.

According to the MBI, the state developed a funding program in 2017 called the Flexible Grant Program (FGP) that was designed to accommodate the unique financial position that communities in western Massachusetts find themselves in with regard to limited tax bases. Unlike larger communities east of the Berkshires, some smaller western towns cannot carry the financial burden of building a high speed internet network without the state funding to help to avoid a significant tax increase. Basler pointed out that, for some towns, the added burden of network building costs could imperil their ability to finance other needed projects in their towns.

As of this meeting date, Fiber Connect, which Weiss referred to as the "incumbent provider," has built their network past 225 of the 800+ residences in Monterey. Nearly 50% of these homes are now connected to their network. Fiber Connect anticipates having their network available to approximately 70% of the residences by the end of 2018. Other potential service providers have decided not to provide high speed internet service to the town (Charter), submitted unacceptable proposals (Frontier), or have shown a diminished interest (Matrix) given the substantial progress of Fiber Connect's build-out of the network.

Finally, the ninety minute meeting began to draw to a close when the MBI and the town began to recognize that, although their high speed internet journey has been frustrating, there appeared to be a light at the end of the tunnel. Essentially, the town boards agreed to prepare and submit a timely joint action plan with Fiber Connect for the $1.2 million allocation under the flexible grant program that will satisfy the financial and state procurement requirements of the MBI. In a further effort to focus both sides on the task at hand, Smitty Pignatelli said that the town and the MBI should come to an agreement through the grant process by March 20. Kenn Basler agreed and said the town and Fiber Connect would submit the grant application to the MBI by March 15, ironically the same date as the "Ides of March." Stay tuned.

—Dennis Lynch



Mayra Rodriquez speaking about her efforts to provide aid to Puerto Rico.

Community Potluck March 21

Despite technical difficulties at the February potluck, we learned a tremendous amount about Puerto Rico before and after the horrendous disasters of hurricanes Irma and Maria. Many thanks to Mayra Rodriguez, who is continuing to raise funds, collect food, and send packages to be distributed on the the island. You may reach her at rodriguez.mayra77@yahoo.com.

For next month we have Keren Weiner, who is a genealogical researcher. Keren says, "Most people want to use popular websites to perform genealogical research. While a variety of documents are available on the Internet, the more personal aspects of an ancestor's history are often missing from these types of records. Capturing the more personal stories of the past and filling in the back story are what lets us draw threads from our ancestors' lives through to our own lives, and preserve these legacies for future generations." In light of this, she will discuss the benefits of researching family history off the Internet.

The next Monterey Community Potluck Dinner will be held at the Monterey Meetinghouse on March 21, at 6 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and a place setting and silverware for yourself. Everyone is welcome. Please join us.

—Kyle Pierce

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Broadband Efforts
Follow-up meeting

At the end of the meeting between Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI), the Monterey Select Board, and the Monterey Broadband Committee, the Monterey folks agreed to meet the following week to begin the process of outlining various proposals to be submitted to MBI by their target date of mid-March.

MBI's new Flexible Grant Program (FGP) was begun to address the concerns of a smaller number of towns for which MBI's principal granting program is a poor fit. This certainly is Monterey's situation with no large scale providers interested in Monterey, and Monterey having a provider, Fiber Connect, that has already made fiber network service available to a substantial portion of the town residences, but with no intention of covering the whole town with their own investment.

Financing

The town's approach now will be to craft proposals around how the earmarked $1.2 million can be used to finance completion of a town network to reach all or almost all of the town residences. The town's proposals will be designed to capture all of that earmarked grant allocation despite the fact that 40% of a town network has already been built, with the remaining 30%+ anticipated to be completed by the end of 2018. MBI was very clear in the previous joint meeting that they would only fund after full network completion and a two-year period of successful operation, at which point they would reimburse "in arrears." For this to work in Monterey, the town would have to sell bonds as a form of bridge loan, which could negatively impact the town's ability to finance other projects.

The town proposals would provide a variety of plans for MBI to do reimbursements according to build-out and operational benchmarks achieved by Fiber Connect. This is a key objective of Monterey's current efforts with the hope that the "flexibility" intent of the FGP would get MBI to rethink the financing needs for our unique small town situation.

Other Concerns

In addition to financing, there are other concerns that MBI has expressed in the past, and which Monterey agrees are important. These concerns have been discussed with Fiber Connect over several conversations and contacts. Fiber Connect has expressed considerable flexibility in addressing these concerns. The list of these issues includes:

- Keeping the connection fee to a reasonable cost, with rebates to early adopters who have already paid a much higher fee.
- A way to provide affordability to townspeople who are on fixed or limited incomes for both connection and service fees.
- Customer service support to provide customers with the knowledge to make the very best use of their high speed connection.
- Performance or surety bonds to provide financial protection should Fiber Connect be unable to complete the full build-out, or otherwise not able to provide service. This would give the town the ability to find another provider to complete the task or take over operation of the network.

As an observer to this process, it appears that MBI and the town boards are on a potentially productive path to resolving how to provide a "ubiquitous and affordable high speed network solution" as the initial legislation called for.

—Stephen Moore

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Fiber Connect

Broadband continues to be a major buzzword in both regional and national news. Feeling out of the loop? Not to worry, you have not missed the boat. Fiber Connect, your hometown broadband provider, has been diligently working to build and expand our network as quickly and effectively as possible.

In July of 2017, Fiber Connect began the construction portion of phase 1, the first section of our Monterey build. By October 2017, we had the core distribution fiber, the network backbone, up and running, and 95% of Phase 1 subscribers online with data services. An important milestone for Fiber Connect, this put us squarely on track to continue expanding, and gave us a good gauge for our build times and costs. Happily, it went very smoothly.

In October 2017, Fiber Connect began construction of phase 1 in Egremont. Working through the cold and holidays, we got 93% of the Phase 1 subscribers lit with data services. Worth noting, in Egremont, our initial subscriber base was roughly 33% greater than in Monterey.

In an effort to get our blazing fast (speed tests show an average in excess of 700Mbps) data service to our subscribers, we deferred the roll-out of our digital phone service; however, this has not been forgotten. Far from it; over the past couple months, we have been setting up, configuring, and testing our phone switches. Due to the process of "porting" phone numbers, or switching them from the previous provider to our system, we will be addressing subscriber's phone service on a rolling schedule, expected to begin in early March.

Beyond our data and phone service, we will be bringing other valuable optional services to our customers. For example we are preparing to offer Remotii smart home utilities monitoring as a monthly service. For more information about this service, go to remotii.com.

Many are asking what is next and when? As we have stated from the start, Fiber Connect is committed to Monterey and Egremont, and, without any taxpayer assistance, we will pass over 70% of the premises in each town. We are also working with town officials to develop a plan to offer service to over 96% of Monterey with a goal to reach as close to 100% as possible.

We thank the Monterey Broadband Committee for their tireless efforts, due diligence, and persistence navigating the various iterations of the MBI grant programs to get the town closer to a complete solution.

National Grid and Verizon, who own the utility poles, are currently finishing "make ready" for phase 2 in Egremont. This preparatory pre-construction work is required before we can attach our infrastructure. Fiber Connect will begin construction as soon as the make ready work is completed. As additional portions of Monterey are completed, we will immediately begin construction. Fiber Connect's goal is to complete phase 2 by the end of 2018.

For a map of the phases, please visit our website bfcma.com.

Last but not least, over the next several months, Fiber Connect will conduct several open Q&A sessions and demonstrations in both Monterey and Egremont, to answer any questions and take registrations. Everyone is welcome to attend. We will also demonstrate how to utilize our 1,000Mbps service to receive "Over The Top" content (TV programming) on your television and smart devices.

Fiber Connect is excited and proud to bring these much needed broadband services to our Berkshire family. We look forward to getting everyone connected to the data superhighway. Thank you all for your continued patience and support.

—Adam Chait, CEO
Fiber Connect

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Here's a Thought...

The evening before I planned to send this month's article in to the *News*, I happened to catch an interview on MSNBC.

Before noon the next morning, the following poem had pre-empted that plan.

Look for my "original" March article in April, slightly retooled to fit a month later in the calendar.

—Mary Kate Jordan

Mary Kate Jordan

Flowers, to grieve those killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High, on February 14.

across my country

One yellow bird soared,
no, strode,
across my country decades ago,

played Pied Piper to millions of children.

After only a year
children came to classrooms
stronger.

not only more able to read but,
by some miracle of neuro-muscular maturation,
able to use scissors earlier and easier
than kindergarteners in my art classes
before them

Now you, Cameron Kasky,
go make a miracle,
like Elon Musk,
but deeper.

where his goes up
and out
(vehicles in space,
vehicles on roads
and
yes,
let the innuendo stand)
while you
in your Ghostbusters pajamas

you
in your unfettered survival

you
in your
(where in the world
did you find that?)
beautiful argyle sweater
confirm to me and Rachel Maddow
#neveragain.

you
in your sudden leadership position
(one face of a new nation)
not a streak of yellow in you,

you
who could be,
only counting years,
my great-grandson,
come, stand on Big Bird's shoulders.

you,
a face of groundswell,
groundswell fulfilling prophecy

and a little child shall lead them.

One "March for Our Lives" event is already set for noon, March 24, at Northampton High School, Northampton, MA.

Check the "March for Our Lives" Facebook page for more information. Click on "Events" in the menu column. Scroll down the list to find the event in Northampton, and any additional locations within driving distance which may be added.

McLaughlin-Wilson and Other Scholarships

Applications Due April 1

Applications to the McLaughlin-Wilson scholarship fund, managed by the Berkshire Taconic Foundation, are due by April 1. Students who have lived in Monterey for the last two years of high school are eligible for scholarships ranging from $1,000 to $7,500, which may include awards over multiple years. Merit is the primary criterion with consideration for effort, community involvement, and individual circumstances.

In 2017 the McLaughlin-Wilson fund awarded $66,500 to nine high school graduates, and scholarship renewals to eleven older students, all from Monterey.

James Allentuck
Molly Amstead
Matthew Amstead
Mitchell Amstead
Chelsea Balestro
Isabel Bronson
Julia Bronson
Matthew Brown
Ella Carlson
Maya Finston-Fox
Katrina Fitzpatrick
Lauren Gilderdale
Jacob Makuc
Joseph Makuc
Justin Makuc
Ezra Marcus
Claudia Martin
Hannah Mulvey
Shayna Sawyer
Kayne Wellauer

Thirty-one scholarship funds for students in Berkshire County are managed by Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation (BTCF). Applications must be received by April 1. Some scholarships are specifically available to students in our immediate area.

The majority of BTCF's scholarships accept one common application with a few exceptions where noted. Applications and guidelines for all the scholarships are available online at berkshiretaconic.org/SearchScholarships.

ॐ

Southern Berkshire Regional School District students Marya Makuc (third from left on top row) and Elisabeth Enoch (fifth from left on top row), with students from visiting schools, performing at the World Education Alliance—Rhythm and Rhyme Gala, at The Mahaiwe Theater last October. Sponsored by the Eagle Fund.

The Eagle Fund

The Eagle Fund, an educational excellence fund established 1998, is an endowment for the Southern Berkshire Regional School District's students.

Grants are awarded in March to students, faculty, staff, or community members through a competitive process, providing our students with a wide range of experiences they would not otherwise have. In 2017 fifteen grants ranging from $500 to $2000 were awarded. The following are a few examples of the grants:

- An Ever Changing Landscape: Fourth Grade Earth Science Residency with Mass Audubon
- Crafting the Landscape: Greenagers after school and summer program
- Empathy Awareness Mentoring Workshop: for children ages eight and up
- Living and Learning in a Multicultural Diverse World: Spanish class trip to NYC
- Mt. Everett High School Choral Commissioning Project
- National Future Farmers of America convention trip 2017
- Senior Citizens Lunch
- VEX Competitive Robotics for grades seven through twelve

The Eagle Fund endowment (which operates under the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) public charity) has provided over $250,000 in grants since its inception. We gratefully accept contributions through the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation (berkshiretaconic.org, click on "Donate," and choose "Search our Funds," with keyword "Eagle"). This will show a page that facilitates donations and provides additional information on the fund and its activity. Each November we conduct a phone-a-thon, and more information will be shared in the fall.

"The Eagle Fund has been our main sponsor since the inception of this program. Their generosity was the seed money to get this program started and it continues to be our main source of funding. This is exactly the type of student enrichment program the Eagle Fund was set up to support. I'm not certain the program would exist without the continued support of the Eagle Fund. To all those that support the fund, we cannot thank you enough." —Chris Thompson, Mt. Everett Middle and High School Robotics Team Mentor

—Melissa Zdziarski
Erna Lampman

Quoth the Raven

We have ravens in Massachusetts, in Berkshire County. Maybe they have not always been here, or maybe they were driven out and are now back again. Ravens are part of the same family as crows, a family known as the *Corvidae*. This includes magpies, assorted jays, and a few kinds of crows. Here in Massachusetts, we might see three kinds of corvids if we are lucky: crows, ravens, and blue jays.

The blue jays are old friends, easy to spot and to identify. Also to vilify, just like crows and ravens. Why do we do this? Like our other land community neighbors, they make an honest living, and with much less ill effect than some of us. Early humans gave the raven the status or role of a deity. On the Northwest coast of North America we can see many an image of Raven, in carvings and in jewelry, and find ravens in legend and in religion.

I knew two black cats, apartment dwellers, in San Francisco. They were named Hugin and Munin, after the Norse characters who sat on the shoulders of Odin, giving him a boost in memory and in mind. Some of us could do with such familiars now. Their images were to be seen on the flags of Norse vessels, back in the day.

More recently, in that California household, a new young cat joined old "Uncle Hugin," and he was called Corvus, named after a black cat Joe and I had here in Monterey for nearly twenty years. *Corvus* is the genus or generic name for both ravens and crows. The ravens are called *Corvus corax*; the second or species name being onomatopoetic, deriving from the voice of the raven.

What does the raven say? Not "Nevermore," that's for sure. Do not trust a poet. The voice of the raven is often hoarse, giving a croak. Also it can express a deep grunting "curr - curr," or a clucking, or even a sound like a bell. I have heard a Monterey raven say "clunk," in a metallic way, also a deep, soft, gentle "dong." As if this were not variable enough, I find the raven to have ventriloquial abilities. What seems to be distant can turn out to be right above me in a tall tree.

Ravens seen at a distance look very like crows—big, black, flying, or walking around. If you get close enough and manage to see both at once (not likely) the raven will be twice the size of the crow. Besides this, the tails are different. Some bird books tell us that ravens have a "wedge-shaped" tail, and crows do not. This is not useful. If you should see a raven in flight, with the tail spread, you might notice the middle feathers of the tail

are longer than the ones on the sides. So the tail has a characteristic shape, which I would not call "wedge-shaped." As for the spread tail of the crow, it is perhaps flat across the end, perhaps a little rounded.

The main thing is that ravens are more than two feet long, nose to tail, with a wingspan of four feet, nearly five. This is huge. The toes are three inches long, and made for walking. The feathers of the throat are long, loose, and sometimes a bit separated, giving a bearded look. In flight, the ravens are like hawks. They can be way up there and are more soaring and sailing than crows.

The name "raven" comes from Anglo-Saxon: *hraefn*. And the Latin genus name *Corvus* means crow. So they are congeners with the crows, relatives.

Ravens are playful, the males especially showing acrobatics in the air, wheeling and tumbling. Often a male and female will fly together, with wingtips touching, the male above the female. They will also perch together, preening and billing. In nesting time, they build high up, sometimes one hundred feet. The males bring food to the females, who incubate five to seven eggs, which are pea-green or olive, with spots that are brown, or grayish, or even lavender. These eggs are big, two inches by an inch and a half, and will hatch in three weeks. There will be only one brood in a season.

Mostly ravens eat carrion, but they also find small vertebrate animals, birds' eggs and nestlings, insects, other invertebrates, seeds, and fruit. When defecating, they do not make a liquidy excretion, but eject a neat pellet.

People like to measure intelligence, and they have found the ravens to be right at the top of some list, ahead of parrots and chimpanzees, for instance. One criterion is about tool making and using. Ravens trim and modify twigs and branches for certain uses, making specialized tools, just the way we do. That makes them smart, according to us.

Anyone wanting to get further involved with ravens should go outside and find a real one. Back home, after dark, maybe curl up with one of the two books by Bernd Heinrich: *Ravens in Winter* or *Mind of the Raven*. I like also to go back to my grandmother's old books where I learned that ravens were common in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1674.

They were damned and killed for various "reasons" and by 1926 Edward Howe Forbush, in *Birds of Massachusetts*, wrote they were "vanishing, if not already gone." All these years later the ravens are still here, or back again. If we are smart enough, this is something to make us glad, and to give us confidence.

—Bonner McAllester

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Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure

My name is Terry Walker. On February 22, 2018, I celebrated my seventh year as a breast cancer survivor. I am so thankful to share my story.

On January 21, 2011, I had a routine mammogram with my doctor. The nurse mentioned that I had a very small black spot on my right breast and that it could possibly be a calcium deposit. I had received the same diagnosis in 2010 so I demanded an ultra sound and biopsy. A few days later I received the call that sends chills down your spine. I did have breast cancer. My perfect life was now a huge emotional rollercoaster.

My Mom had died in 2008 from colon cancer and I was her care giver for the last three years of her life. I knew the pain and suffering she had endured. She fought to live even when there was absolutely nothing to live for. I learned to trust in myself, listen to my body, and kept a deep faith in God. I also did not listen to horror stories or negative people. On February 22, 2011, the cancer was removed from my right breast. I had to drive to D'Amour Cancer Treatment Center in Springfield, MA daily for six weeks of radiation.

In 2012, I began running Susan G. Komen "Race for the Cure" 5K races to raise money for breast cancer research. Being a fundraiser for such a worthy cause gives me inner strength and a lot of positive energy for helping others. Today I am a survivor and faithfully raise money for "Race for the Cure." Through fundraising, the goal for Susan G. Komen is to reduce the current number of breast cancer deaths in the US by 50% by 2026. To learn more about the Susan G. Komen foundation, go to komen.org.

My journey was filled with miracles, prayers, and positive people who stood by my side. My advice to everyone is—take one day at a time, and with inner strength, courage, and faith, you will get through this. Never forget, you're not alone. My favorite song is by Melissa Etheridge, *I Run for Life*, and I am very grateful for my life.

This February I ran in the Vermont 5K snowshoe race at Stratton Mountain. I won first place among survivors, second place overall, and was recognized as the top fundraiser.

—Terry Walker
Monterey Town Clerk

Stratton Mountain snowshoe "Race for the Cure" 2018.

Team Walker was myself, my granddaughter, Jewelianna Walker, on my left, and my niece Piper Morgan on the right. Miss Vermont was congratulating me for coming in first place in the 5K snowshoe race in the survivors category, and second place overall.

Prizes for winning the race included a pair of snowshoes and prizes for Team Walker for being one of the top fundraisers.

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March 9 - April 21

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Monterey Library

Knox Gallery supported by Friends of the Monterey Library

A Cure For the Winter Woes

Remember the fun of playing games like dominoes, battleship, checkers, monopoly, or scrabble? How about the challenge of learning a new board game? Well, the Monterey Community Center will be holding a monthly board game night starting Friday, March 9, from 7 to 9 p.m., to rekindle some community fun and to warm up those cold winter nights with some laughter. We will have some board games there or you can bring some of your favorites. We even heard tell of a special version of Monopoly that features our own Town of Monterey. Wonder how much it would cost if you land on "The Bidwell House" square? Come on down and find out. All are welcome to attend this monthly, free event. Light refreshments provided. —Elaine Lynch

Garden Planning

Looking forward to trading your snow shovel for a garden hoe? Then join us for Garden Planning on Saturday morning, March 10, from 10 to 11:30, at the community center. This program, featuring a panel of commercial vegetable and flower growers, as well as serious home gardeners with years of experience, will address all aspects of planning your 2018 growing season. Admission is free; no reservations necessary. —Dorene Beller

Garden Planning for 2018
A panel of local experts will give their experiential advice and answer questions
Saturday March 10 10-11:30
Monterey Community Center
ccmonterey.org
One block east of the (closed) Monterey Store

Spring Awakening in Monterey

'Tis the season to awaken your imagination with the creative line-up of new programs and workshops being sponsored by the Monterey Community Center this spring.

Saturday, March 10: Garden planning workshop (at left).

Saturday, April 14: *Paint Your Home*, a full day painting workshop, is being taught by Monterey artist, Joe Baker. Beginning or experienced painters, using all mediums, will have the opportunity to create a personal version of the interior or exterior of their home (or someone else's), using photos or sketches.

Saturday, June 3: *Mindful Art-Making* is the theme of the workshop. Using your favorite 2-D or 3-D medium, Monterey artist Kit Patten will help you focus on the process of creating rather than the outcome on the page.

Saturday, June 16: Author of six published novels, and a Berkshires resident, Sonia Pilcer, will conduct an introductory workshop, *Memoir Worshop*, for those who have wanted to get stories from their lives on paper, but haven't known how to begin. No writing experience is necessary.

After all those creative workouts, you'll want to join us for some physical exercise on Saturdays, June 30 through September 11, when various teachers will lead an outdoor yoga program.

Noteworthy ongoing programs include Dancercize, every Thursday, and Town Yarners, the first Thursday of each month.

For detailed information and/or to register for programs and workshops at the Monterey Community Center, please go to ccmonterey.org, or call (413)528-3600 and leave a message.

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Like times past
Better forgotten,
The mist creeps close.
Fills the woods
With melancholy beauty.
Gently, gently,
Clings, shifts,
Deepens, then thins.
As cryptic, as clear,
As never-lost love
Strong then weak
Like unconquered fear.

The mist creeps close.
As close as my heart.
Every kept secret,
Every lost dream,
Drifts in the veil.
Thick, exquisite sadness
Reaches into me
Slips from me.
My heart seems to wait,
Breathless,
For the fog to part
Revealing the aim of all my hope
But all is quiet
No sound,
But the patter of my thoughts
Like gems of water
Gathered on the limbs
Suspended, peifect, pendants
Finally falling
To be swallowed in the mud

I wonder.
Is this how dreams die?
No fanfare, no consequence.
Alice only in a limbo
Of pearl-vague vapor
Certain, serene, sinister.
That returns with a reminder
Of what could have been.
Stirring the longing.
The regret,
Presumed hidden forever.

—Nick Hardcastle
March 1998

Those Girls by the Side of the Road

cold afternoon, almost dark
cold and windy, spittin', cold rain
day before Thanksgiving
drivin' my country road
up the hill, roundin' the curve
there!
dark beauties, three in all
bare legs and dressed dark
and sleek and iridescent
like they wanna be picked up
like those girls out on
strada statale dodic (state road 12)
south of Mattarello
on the way to Rovereto
who had umbrellas
for the cold rain
while these girls
they just got feathers.

—Boney Oscar
November 2017

The Historic House on the Hill

When he looked up from his farmer's field,
waving with wheat, the snath of his scythe
slick with sweat, the house on the hill
dazzled his mind like a white flame –
light sent with a will from Heaven
and welcomed with a coat of white paint.

And so, although the joists groaned
and rats ran in the attic and cellar,
when spring arrived he scraped and repainted.
It still winks from its hill wordlessly
through this burnt wilderness of words.
God hurls down His will in waves,

and we gather it on our pale backs
and warmed to order, hack at the scrabble.

—Don Barkin

Bidwell House Museum
Summer Internships

The Bidwell House Museum is now accepting applications for summer internships. Each summer the museum offers high school students with an interest in history—particularly local Berkshire colonial history—the opportunity to become a young history scholar intern. Eight to ten students will get an inside view of the historic house and the operations of a non-profit.

High school interns spend two weeks at the museum: during week one the intern learns about colonial Berkshire history, the Bidwell family, the house, the property, and the collection, and how docents give tours; during week two each intern chooses a research topic and begins to give tours of the museum as a junior docent. Students gain valuable skills in research, public speaking, and working in a professional environment. It is a great skill builder for students looking to continue education in this field.

Each student receives a $500 stipend at the end of their two-week internship.

The application deadline is April 30. Applications for high school internships can be found on the Bidwell House Museum website, bidwellhousemuseum.org, under the information tab.

Please call or email me with any questions, at 413-528-6888, or bidwellhouse@gmail.com.

—Heather Kowalski
Executive Director

Marya Makuc

Bidwell House Museum intern Ella Carlson explains how the Bidwells kept warm during the harsh New England winters. Interns are encouraged to develop tours based on their interests in the property.

Youth Summer Cultural Grants
March 15 Deadline

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation has set March 15 as the deadline for applications to the Simple Gifts Fund, a fund of the foundation. The fund awards grants of $200 to $800 to young people ages thirteen to nineteen for participation in cultural or creative summer programs, such as theater internships, music and art camps, or language immersion programs.

The Simple Gifts Fund was established in honor of Bill Crofut by his family. Bill was a beloved local folksinger who died in 1999. He had a deep understanding of and empathy for the dreams and aspirations of young people. He wanted to do something that could help them achieve their goals and knew that even small amounts of money could help them purchase an instrument, study dance, or participate in a summer program. He loved to foster those small steps to further great passions.

Applications and guidelines are available online at BerkshireTaconic.org/SearchGrants.

The Vocal Coyote

The eastern coyote that we often see darting across both country and suburban roads in the nighttime headlights of our cars has evolved to be as large as a German shepherd dog. How did that happen during the last half century, and in the span of a single generation of paying attention on our part? We gradually became aware that they are not the same critter as the small twenty-five pound humorous western character portrayed in animated Walt Disney cartoons. Scientists today are in considerable disagreement about how the process of hybridization has greatly accelerated due to human modifications to habitats, which in turn paved the way for geographical distribution to the midwest, eastern Canada, and through all of the New England and even the southern states.

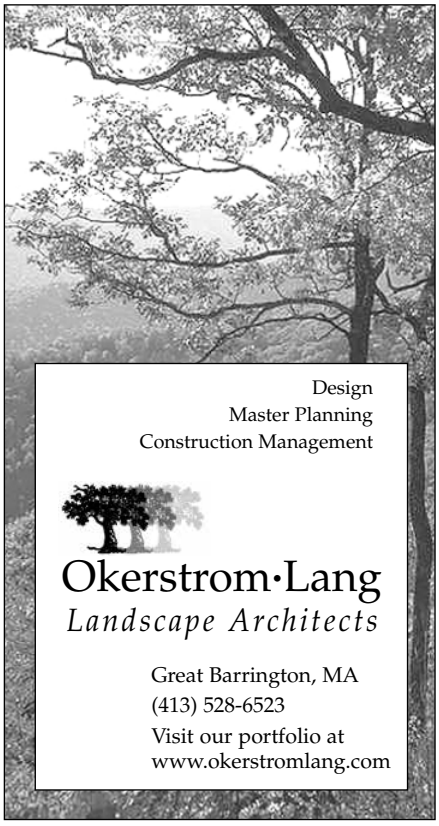
The original southwestern coyote was characterized in Navaho folklore as a trickster in the mythological role of an animal spirit bringing about the creation of life on Earth. The wily self-serving coyote was believed to have mystical superiority and credit in the scheme of how it all came about. Now the coyote has miraculously transformed in our minds from being first classified as a coyote, then into a coy-dog seen running with free range dogs. And now, in further hybridization, it is about to be re-classified as a coy-wolf. The genetic makeup of this new species is currently estimated as approximately 60% coyote, 30% wolf, and as much as 10% domesticated dog, even though interbreeding with them is very rare.

Just as they have continued to evolve into a new species by successfully interbreeding with other canines, including the gray wolf, they are versatile and opportunistic in urban as well as inner-city habitats. They can run at a top speed of forty miles an hour and travel up to fifteen miles daily, with a range of eleven square miles, frequently relocating to other areas of their choice. They adapt quickly to a wide variety of prey including rabbits, woodchucks, rodents, birds, snakes, feral cats, small stray pets, and dogs. At the Berkshire National Fish Hatchery we have seen them sneak close enough to a flock of turkeys to get a running start and catch one before it is fully airborne. At one den there was a wide variety of bits of fir and feathers, including traces of white-tail deer fawns.

They are mainly nocturnal, keeping out of most people's sight and minds. They communicate among themselves using short yips, barks, and howls to locate each other. They are very social and good parents. Recently in a mowed farm field, a mother was seen standing on her hind feet showing her pups how to find and draw out a rodent. They are well known for howling more often at a rising full moon, as they are doing in my drawing. The yowl starts out with a flat tone, followed by a wavering howl. The seemingly sudden performance urge is contagious, stimulating yips of the young as well as carrying to the adults within ear shot. I am told that in my new home, on the south coast of Massachusetts, the sound of the siren at a fire station will get them started. Also, when I am in New Hampshire on vacation, the various calls of loons invites them to a similar sounding symphony.

While perhaps alarming to the peace and quiet of some mortal ears, it is also a message of environmental awareness to human beings in these current times about what might be next to frequent our neighborhoods. Before coming here, they were known as brush wolves in Canada because they are often seen around brushy areas or digging dens in brush piles. Such habitat is a key to their future. The last newly arriving species spotted in Monterey was, of course, the mountain lion. I believe they travel along our nearby corridor of steep mountains during their wide ranging of a single day or night, passing through to where, like the coyote, they feel comfortable making their home.

—George B. Emmons



From the Meetinghouse

"Boundary Busting," in January's *Monterey News*, stayed with me. Richard Skolnik's listing many of the ways our world has changed shape for boundaries that once seemed clear now being blurred or even obliterated—this stayed with me. "So much today is shifting, blurred, and blended," Mr. Skolnik noticed, I think rightly. "Little wonder that Trump, who wants to build a boundary such as a wall, limit foreign goods flowing into the United States and deny gender extensions, has legions of supporters. Many find it hard to understand or accept the new fluid landscape."

As it happens, soon after I read his article, we heard the story of Noah and the Great Flood in worship for our Godly Play service.

We do this on the third Sunday service of every month, hear a story from the Bible in a style known as Godly Play. Developed by Jerome Berryman, a Montessori school teacher and Episcopal priest, Godly Play lifts scripture off the page and sets it in materials that you can manipulate, play with. Intended for children (see Maria Rundle's article on page 19), it works well with adults too. So we use it in worship, and have done so for ten years. Instead of a sermon, we do Godly Play. (Stop in some third Sunday and try on one of these old stories. It might fit.)

One effect of this is that these stories no longer seem like mere texts, even if really, really important ones. They're no longer a series of words fixed in print on a page, which invites the pernicious Protestant error of "literalism." (This is itself a wildly distorting interpretive scrim, nothing literal about it, but that's an article for another time.) Instead, they're yet living and also encompassing, drawing listeners in and even inviting them to wonder about where they are in the story or what part of the story is about them.

Another effect is that it invites a fresh hearing even to ancient stories long told and widely known, which suggests that these aren't stories with a "moral" or even with a settled meaning, but are ever revealing themselves anew. This is the truth of them, not that they record history or remain constant but that they abide as revelatory.

Our January telling of the story of Noah and the Great Flood reminded me of this all over again. Perhaps in combination with Mr. Skolnik's article, I was newly thoughtful of that storied rainbow. You know the one—it followed the flood. "Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you…that never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant…: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

Much has been made of this emblematic rainbow. But that Sunday morning earlier this winter I was newly aware of God's deigning to the imperfection of the world. Going forward from mythic time, crossing over into historic time, a bridge in which this story seems one early stone in paving, God would now tolerate that so much of this good and beloved creation could go wrong, would accept that so much would go wrong, and yet God would commit to staying amidst the creation that it might ever-recover its course.

No longer all about purity, God would be about redemption.

No longer all about absolutes, God would deign to ambiguity.

I mean, consider that rainbow—it's a coming together of two apparently opposite weather phenomena, sun and rain. It's a visual delighting in the intermixing of distinctions—and with this as a sign of the covenant perhaps God has something to say about the shifting, blurring, and blending that has so many of us on edge.

I don't mean to sound casual about the end of the world as we've known it—some of us, anyway. But I do mean to sound hopeful. I believe what constructs we've built in the world—these which give us a sense of order and safety, these which God indeed seems to bless for a time—are also deeply imperfect. As inclusive as they might be, they are only and always so at the expense of excluding others. As much of a blessing as they might be to many, they are also a curse to those who "fall through the cracks." Our pursuit of a common good and a more perfect union, expansive and ever more magnanimous, will also always fall short.

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And yet we keep building, expanding, in the hope that maybe one of these days…

This likely comes as bad news if you're someone who likes to solve problems. But it perhaps comes as good news if you're looking for meaningful work. We will never, never fall short of meaningful work to do.

I sometimes glimpse the world through my children's eyes. Eleven and thirteen years old, they were born into a world with the Internet and its utter boundlessness.

Once, my older one asked me what were the worries of parents when I was kid. I asked him to explain the question, and he said, "Now it's screen time and opioids and porn. School shootings. What was it then?"

I had to think for a minute, not that it was all so great but that it was so long ago and I was a kid.

I finally came up with something. "I bet parents worried if their kid didn't fit in," a notion he found astonishing, but I explained. "I never knew anyone who didn't speak English until I was eight years old." That was when a family of Laotian refugees moved in, sponsored by a Methodist church. "Everyone I knew was white but for six black people." Not that we ever even considered ourselves "white." "I knew one Jewish family. Until high school, I knew only one person who didn't live with both her parents, and I knew three people whose sexuality seemed not quite straight."

I conceded, "It was a different world then. People were much more fixed in place, and if you didn't fit in your place, I bet it was worrisome."

It would be naïve to claim that kids today have been born into a better world than the one those of us who are adults once thought to trust as true. But it would be uncritical nostalgia to think the opposite is the case—that it was better "then," whenever "then" is taken to be. Worse, though, nostalgia can take on a resentful, even mean spirit, can become punishing or cruel or set to the service of "purity."

There's hardly a more dangerous human urge than that to purity.

And really, if God can deign to a complicated world of grace and sin, of sun and rain, of building up and tumbling down, then perhaps we can as well.

"Boundary Busting" ended on an ambiguous note, which I suppose is right. I couldn't discern exactly whether Mr. Skolnik is an optimist or a declinist, which I suppose is his larger point. Recognizing that there's a whole bunch of people who grew up being told not to color outside the lines, he also recognizes the pain of having those very lines blurred or (worse) obliterated.

As for one proposed response to the anxiety and resentment that attends all these changes—building a "big, beautiful wall"—I'd suggest some older walls that yet hold, and more in a spirit of sanctuary than of fortress. The meetinghouse is a place where you can entertain a boundless spirit though within the beautiful bounds of history and tradition and humankind.

It's the best of all worlds if you ask me.

—Pastor Liz Goodman
United Church of Christ

Godly Play

I wonder if the creatures in the story have names? I wonder where you are in the story? I wonder if there is any part of the story we can leave out and still have everything we need?

Wisdom begins in wonder. Join us at the Monterey United Church of Christ for Godly Play, an approach that helps children to explore their faith through story and to enhance their spiritual experience though wonder and play. Based on Montessori principles and developed using a spiral curriculum, the Godly Play method serves children through early, middle, and late childhood and beyond. This program is run by local educators,Sheela Clary and Maria Rundle, Sunday mornings from 9 to 9:45 and is open to children ages six through eleven. Our upcoming sessions are on Sundays, March 4 and 18, Saturday, March 31 (to not interfere with Easter), and Sunday, April 8.

Contact Maria at mariarundle@gmail.com to find out more. We'd love to have you join us this month!

—Maria Rundle

Monterey Community Potluck Suppers

Join us March 21 to hear:
Keren Weiner

Geneology off the Internet—
Capturing those personal stories!

See the community potluck supper article on page 7.

3rd Wednesdays, October–May
6 p.m. Fellowship Hall
Monterey Church

For more information,
call Kyle Pierce, 528-9213

Transfer Station Winter Hours Ending

Sunday, March 4	10 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.
Starting March 11	10 a.m.– 6 p.m.
Wednesday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.

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A Tale of Two Tales

After an obligatory nod to Native Americans, we proudly declare that we are all descended from immigrants and that America is a nation of immigrants. We say it with pride because behind the claim is the conviction that millions of folks from around the world freely chose to leave their native lands, attracted by the promise and opportunities offered in the United States, the land of liberty.

We've elaborated upon that story in a variety of ways. North America, after all, a virtually empty continent, needed to be filled in, settled, and so waves of immigrants were essential to the peopling of this vast territory. But land without labor could not be properly productive, so hard-working immigrants were necessary to capitalize on the enormous potential of America. They built this country by constructing the canals, the vast railroad network, and later the tunnels, bridges, roads, and skyscrapers of America. They entered the mills, mines, factories, and workshops, and helped make America an impressively productive economy, the envy of the world. Industrious immigrants blessed with talent and ambition found America to be just the place to fulfill their potential and they prospered mightily.

America welcomed them, and they in turn became loyal citizens. They enlisted in our armies and died for their adopted country. In time they shed their foreignness and became indistinguishable from native-born Americans. The process of assimilation proved remarkably effective. They assumed "American" names, accepted American ways even as they retained warm memories of the "old country" along with treasured customs and practices, which served to enrich the American social tapestry. The United States congratulated itself on its diverse populations, noting that much of the hostility long harbored by one group against another overseas appeared to dissipate in the free and open society that was America. To believe that the United States was the greatest country in the world, a conviction most Americans shared, meant that much of the credit was due to the tens of millions who had thrown in their lot with the US of A.

That we celebrate America's immigrant past is but a part of our national narrative. Who doesn't thrill to the Statue of Liberty, enjoy a colorful St. Patrick's Day parade, or take pleasure in consuming a bagel? But it is time now to look beneath the surface, move beyond immigration in the abstract and remind ourselves that while many immigrant groups who arrived long ago settled in and were, over time, accepted, it was not without a struggle and, at times, open conflict. They had to run a fearsome, seemingly unending gauntlet, an experience perhaps forgotten but very much part of America's story.

Immigrants rarely made or left a good first impression. Almost always they seemed strange, alien, spoke an unfamiliar language, and understood little or no English. They were poor, maybe not destitute, but just short of desperate. They stuck together, were clannish, frequently seemed little interested in joining the larger American community. Throughout a good part of the 19th century, for example, the Germans appeared to be people apart, incurring the wrath of Americans by insisting upon retaining their language and maintaining their own schools (as well as their beer gardens where on Sunday they gathered to drink).

There was much Americans (as distinguished from recent immigrants) didn't like about nearly every immigrant group, almost without exception. They viewed them as irredeemably inferior, a lower order of human species (in the 1840s, and long thereafter, the Irish were frequently pictured in the popular press as monkeys) who would debase American stock. Too many, it was said, took to begging, and an equal number to criminal activity. Protestant America feared the influx of Roman Catholics, charged them with conspiring to undermine American values, even American democracy. The Jews did not fare much better—widespread anti-Semitism producing broad patterns of discrimination and exclusion. Fury against the Japanese, and especially the Chinese, was widespread, with frequent open violence against the Chinese. The US would eventually bar the nationals of both nations from entering the country.

Scapegoating immigrants for one reason or another was common. Some were charged with importing radicalism (communism, socialism and anarchism) into the country. Others faced the wrath of American workers when they were recruited as strikebreakers. Elites were concerned about the massive influx of immigrants, especially from eastern Europe,

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fearing their higher birth rates could in time threaten the WASP establishment. When major immigration legislation was enacted in the 1920s, its quotas deliberately favored those arriving from Western Europe.

Once again the debate over immigration has been joined as it has so often in the past. We can readily recognize how familiar it all seems now, how America remains of two minds on the subject. Once more we are reminded that immigration is inseparable from our national identity, and that millions still are drawn to the United States, both as a refuge and a land of freedom and opportunity. Immigrants work hard, accept jobs Americans reject, pay taxes, start new businesses, restore blighted neighborhoods, and enlist in the armed services. Without immigrants, who typically are young, America would have a population aging even more rapidly than at present, with all its attendant problems.

The current indictment against immigration recapitulates familiar themes. Millions, we're informed, have entered illegally, large numbers smuggled across our borders. They should be apprehended and deported. They rapidly form gangs and engage in widespread criminal activity. The jobs they hold could better be filled by Americans. Supporting them in a variety of ways represents a severe drain on community budgets. They keep to themselves, make little effort to learn English and instead insist that official documents include their language. Some are carriers of radical ideas (Muslim fundamentalism) and are intent on violence. As a consequence, most Muslims should be kept from entering our country. Indeed the United States must have the absolute right to determine what is in its best interests when deciding who may enter our country. If the current uncontrollable influx continues it could well alter who controls this country as well as threaten our cherished traditions and values.

There has, it is now clear, always been two sides to the immigration story. Invariably we've witnessed heated debate, conflict, and violence. Immigration has repeatedly brought out the best and the worst in America. That appears likely to continue.

—Richard Skolnik

Bonsai Cox

Corvus brachyrhynchos *(crow) with candles. For more about* Corvus*, see page 12.*

Monterey General Store

In late 2017 there was a local party interested in purchasing the property of the general store for the purpose of opening a food service business sometime in the coming spring. That buyer has withdrawn their interest in the store for now. The store is still a listed property for sale, and the asking price has been lowered.

If it's true that sometimes no news is good news, then many will feel that this "some news" is indeed not good news. The old adage tells us when one door is closed, another one opens, so we'll have to wait and see.

—Stephen Moore

A Sudden Dream

There are times,
When I look at her
I am struck by a vision
Of a future I cannot guide.
A helpless comprehension
Of love, loss, hope, and fear.
My instincts stumble in confusion,
As in that perfect moment
I see my princess
As another man's queen

Now as I watch her
Spilled in sleep.
Soft, slack, shining
Beautiful innocence.
I know,
Too soon,
I will understand nothing.
And what I have seen
Is an omen of impotence,
A sign of passage.
I in my shadows,
She in her sun.

In the dark, to the night
I wish for her
And I swear my wishes
Will stand forever
Like stones on the moor
Ancient, upright, soothing,
A cracked, weathered refuge
Of certainty.

—Nick Hardcastle
August 1998

Sugar time! Drilling holes and hanging buckets, for the last forty-two years—Joe Baker of Monterey Maple, then and now.

Wildlife Report
Mid-January to Mid-February

Chris and Ron Goldfinger reported again on the wild turkeys at their place, this time thirteen of them at the feeder. They also wrote about a large porcupine on Fairview Road, in mid-January. Right about this time we had exciting news from Noel Wicke of an indoor crayfish at Gould Farm. She told of a large crayfish, also called a crawdad by some, living in the wet places of the Main House basement. How did it get there? How was it staying alive? After a day or two, a rescue party released the big crustacean in the outdoor pond, hoping the cold water would not be too much of a shock.

Early in February our reporters who take notes along New Marlborough Road saw six cedar waxwings perched in a row, evenly spaced and all facing south. There was a seventh perched much higher up, maybe serving as a lookout, they suggest.

In the chilly dead of winter, the first local tick made an appearance on our hospitable old dog, Russell, early in February. This was right on Groundhog Day, but we didn't see any of these. They are also called woodchucks. We received photographs from Maureen Banner showing many goldfinches on the thistle seed feeders. (See them on the front page.) These birds, which my mother used to call "lead finches" in the winter, are showing some yellow now, as the days get longer and avian hormones respond.

Steve Moore saw a rare sight on Block Island the first week in February: a juvenile snowy owl. He says you can tell it is a youngster because it is decorated with spots and checks. Steve reports that the young snowy owls migrate farther south than do the adults.

Bluebirds are coming back and Roz Halberstadter has seen one near her place on Lake Buel. On Lake Garfield, when there was perfect iceskating on clear black ice and you could see the fish below, one skater saw at a distance a dark form near the open water of The Channel. This turned out to be an otter, out on the ice, probably also looking for the fish below.

In mid-February, I saw a large dark form on the ice in East Otis on Benton Pond. This was a bald eagle, at a place where people often go ice-fishing. On this day, only the eagle was there on the ice, and was eating something. Maybe it was fish cleanings, or maybe bait fish. At a *Monterey News* board meeting recently I heard that Pauline Banducci saw an eagle near Brett Road, and that the big bird was breaking up sticks. Somewhere not too far away there must be a pair of bald eagles setting up house.

The big flocks of red-winged blackbirds are back, also the boy robins. We have seen flocks of crows, and ravens flying more singly or in pairs or threes. These are exciting times, an early spring, with the red-bellied woodpeckers singing their chirring songs.

Pam Johnson wrote in to say there has been a mink enjoying koi fish for lunch and dinner at her place, near Stevens Pond, and Henry Blanchard, a neighbor from Stockbridge, sent a photo of an opossum visiting his henhouse recently, quite harmoniously. (Photo next page.)

Maureen Banner sent in a photograph, above, of some wonderful sculptural carvings by the local pileated woodpeckers. She also took a photo of mouse and junco tracks under her feeder, below. At the bottom is an image of indian pipes she captured, with beech seeds scattered about.

After mid-February, but not right at the end of the month, Joe Baker saw the first chipmunk up from hibernation in these parts.

There are no bear reports coming in yet, but the skunks are up from their winter sleep. I saw tracks in the snow by our sugarhouse: five toes on front and rear and short strides looking a little pigeon-toed. Besides all this animal news, the red osier or dogwood twigs are very red in the swamps just now and long, drooping, weeping willow branches are bright yellow. Red maples are getting buddy and the sap is running in the sugar bushes. This is spring.

Thank you for all your news of our wild neighbors, plant and animal, large and small.

—Bonner McAllester
528-9385 bonnermca@gmail.com

Henry Blanchard

An opossum and a hen, getting along well with no ruffled feathers or fur.

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Adult Book Group

March 26, at 7:390 p.m., the adult book group will be discussing *State of Wonder*, a novel by Ann Patchett. A researcher goes on an uncertain odyssey into the Amazon jungle in search of a colleague and mentor who has gone missing.

Our April 23 book is *The Souls of Black Folk* by W.E.B. Dubois.

Please feel free to join us.

Having a Good Day

- Having a glass of wine to celebrate the springtime later-setting sun.
- You bought it last week, it didn't quite fit, you couldn't find the receipt, but the store was happy to take it back anyway!

February 2018 Contributors

A small group of 'L's have pitched in to help the Monterey News during somewhat dreary days of cold rain and ice. It warms us up to have continual support!

Carol & Alfred Landress
Mary Beth & James Lubeck
Laura & Stuart Litwin

Correction

In last month's article, "Monterey Skating Rink, Thirty Years of Skating," author Jim Thomas's email address was incorrect. His correct address is jtranger6@yahoo.com. He hopes to hear from old friends in town, but due to this error he has not.

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Police Report
Mid-January to Mid-February

Keeping Things on the Up-and-Up
Beware of phone calls or other contacts asking for inappropriate information. A woman reported receiving a call from someone claiming to be from National Grid. She was asked for information from her bill. National Grid, and other vendors, send you the information. They don't need to call to get it from you. The officer reported it to National Grid.

The police are investigating an instance of things missing from a house that is currently under renovation. An officer assisted a resident on Blue Hill Road who had issued a stop-work order to the contractor repairing the house. Help was needed to keep the peace while the workers loaded their tools.

Urgent Drivers
The police department reported a dozen traffic stops for speeding, several well in excess of the limit during snowy or heavy rain conditions, or with suspended licenses.

In one instance, an officer stopped a vehicle for going 16 mph over the limit on Pixley Road. The operator was unlicensed and also had two active warrants. The operator was arrested and criminally charged. It was also determined that the party's girlfriend knew he was unlicensed and allowed him to drive her car. She was also criminally charged.

In another potentially hazardous situation, a vehicle sped past an officer at 65 mph, with an extremely loud aftermarket exhaust system practically designed to catch a police officer's attention. While requesting a license and registration, the officer noticed the top part of a firearm sticking out of the cup holder. The officer found that the operator was from North Carolina and did not have a permit to carry a loaded firearm in the car. The car was also unregistered and the operator was unable to produce a driver license. The operator was arrested and charged and the vehicle was towed.

Another unlicensed driver with a particularly loud exhaust was stopped on Tyringham Road and was criminally charged.

Roadside Assistance
Between the snow, rain, and ice, there were many incidences of roadside assistance being required. Two cars went off Sandisfield Road needing a wrecker to pull them out. A Pepsi truck slid off Cronk Road and required a tow truck. A Valley dumpster truck got stuck on Beartown Mountain Road, blocking the road, and had to be removed. A vehicle slid off Camp Half Moon Road and needed a call to AAA for assistance. A truck went off Main Road and took down a sign belonging to a resident, but without greater damage.

An officer was asked for assistance on Pixley Road by an elderly driver whose vehicle warning light was on. It was discovered that the driver's side tire was flat. These were "run-flat" tires, and there was no spare. So the driver decided to drive to Butternut and call for service from there. The officer advised him to drive slowly and keep well to the right.

It turns our that our new Sergeant, Brian Fahey, is one of the only certified installers of car seats in the southern Berkshire area. He was able to help folks from Great Barrington get their car seat properly installed. Nice service to have available.

Inappropriate Winter Parking
From the department of "What Was He Thinking?" comes the report that a person had left his car parked in the roadway of Route 23, during a period of heavy snow and hazardous conditions, for over an hour, with the flashers on, so he could hike on Bob's Way. He was cited.

Three vehicles parked in the private property area of Prescott Lane on Lake Buel had to be called to come in off the ice and move their cars to the Lake Buel boat launch, because that's why there's public parking there.

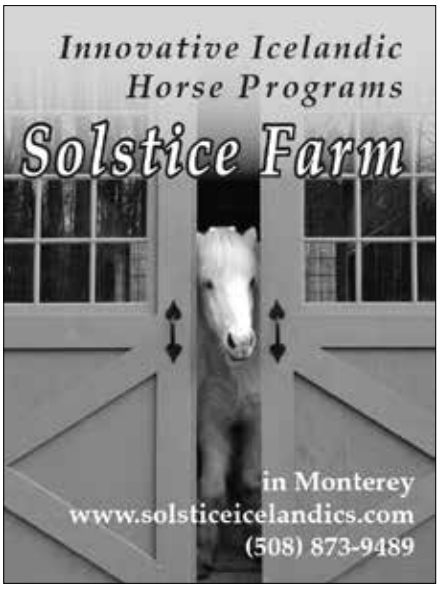
Mutual Aid
The police department responded to two mutual aid requests. One was from Great Barrington to assist with a class A drug arrest. The second was to assist New Marlborough police for an OUI (operating under the influence) stop. A sobriety test was administered.

Alarms
Four alarms were reported —some usual suspects—a gas leak, the town hall, a fire in a fireplace at Swann Lodge, and burned food. None were discovered to be genuine hazards, though the burned food might not have been too healthy.

SUSAN M. SMITH
Attorney At Law

38 Mahaiwe St., Suite 1
Great Barrington
Massachusetts 01230

Telephone: (413) 229-7080
Facsimile: (413) 229-7085
Email: ssmithlaw@hughes.net



Medical Calls

Monterey police responded to a report of a vehicle coming from Otis with hazard lights blinking. The driver was transporting her elderly husband who was having a serious asthma attack. The officer was able to locate and stop the vehicle and call the location into Monterey Fire Department who were already on the way. The gentleman was transported by the Southern Berkshire Volunteer Ambulance Squad (SBVAS)

Ice hazards during the winter certainly take their toll, with broken wrists and elbows a frequent result. The police and fire department responded to an ice injury on Harmon Road. A person had fallen on the ice in the road and possibly had a broken leg. SBVAS provided transportation to the hospital.

The police, fire department, and SBVAS all responded to the report of a person who had fallen through the ice on Lake Garfield. But the subject was out of the water and refused medical treatment.

Call 528-3211 to reach the police department for non-emergencies.

Council on Aging

Please assist the council in its role of facilitating the wellbeing of Monterey seniors. What are your ideas? Maybe these interest you—safety, housing, physical fitness, social events, movies, Wii sports, crafts. Join us for coffee at town hall at 10 a.m. on Monday, March19 to discuss your ideas.

Contacts information: montereyseniors@gmail.com, 528-1443 x 247, or 528-9151.

—Kay Purcell

Soil and Shul in the Berkshires

Author Lorraine German will talk about her forthcoming book, *Soil and Shul in the Berkshires: The Untold Story of Sandisfield's Jewish Farm Colony*, on Sunday, March 25, at 2 p.m., as part of the Connecticut Spring Antiques Show. She will speak at the landmark Hartford Armory, 360 Broad St., Hartford, Conn. Admission to the show, including this event, is $15. For information about the show go to website, ctspringantiquesshow.com or contact Lorraine German at madriverantiques@aol.com.

—Ron Bernard

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This is a limited edition.
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Select Board Corner

Welcome to the Select Board Corner. Our goal is to submit an article each month to the *Monterey News* to keep everyone up to date on important issues, office closings, highway projects, etc.

MontereyMA.gov

Our town website is a great way to access information about the town.

Meetings and Events

Board of Health: Mondays, March 5 and 19, at 4 p.m.

Chair Yoga: Tuesdays, 9 to 10 a.m., at the community center.

Conservation Commission: Wednesday, March 14, at 6 p.m.

Council on Aging: Mondays, March 12 and 26, at 10 a.m.

Visiting Nurse: Berkshire VNA will be here on Thursday, March 8, from 2 to 3 p.m. No appointment necessary.

Foot Nurse: Thursday, March 8, 9 to 11:30 a.m., by appointment (please call 528-1443 x247). All ages are welcome.

Parks Commission: Wednesday, March 7, at 6 p.m.

Planning Board: Thursdays, March 8 and 22, at 7 p.m.

Select Board: Wednesday, March 7 at 9 a.m., and March 21, at 4 p.m. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda.

Town Hall Closings

Most individual office closings are posted on the town calendar and on the department's voicemail message. We recommend always calling ahead.

Budget for FY 2019

The select board has been working closely with town departments and finance committee on the FY 19 budget, and we anticipate having a final budget to present to the town by the end of March.

In coordination with the applicable departments, we have been able to decrease costs of the following line items: temporary employee, town reserve fund, accountant/treasurer software, elected assessors, treasurer expenses, broadband services (for town facilities), tax title legal services, building inspector expenses, transfer station operations, and health insurance.

It was agreed to provide most paid positions a 2% cost of living increase.

Over the last year a number of beneficial staffing changes have been made. Residents voted to change a number of positions to appointed, and we have successfully transitioned to a professional municipal financial team for accounting and treasury services.

Although at one time the town voted to authorize the select board to appoint a part time town administrator, the results of a search committee proved repeatedly disappointing and, after a difficult trial hiring, we have suspended efforts to fill that position. We continue to evaluate current procedures and personnel in town offices, and believe that the changes which have been made have proven positive, resulting in greater efficiency and accountability. The board recommends reducing the town administrator salary and expense line item to $1, and leaving the position unfilled until we determine it is no longer needed.

A new line item was added to cover training, education, and associated expenses for the administrative assistant.

A new line item was added to provide increased town meeting accessibility for the hearing-impaired.

We await the "elephant in the room." The SBRSD (school district) budget figures, which will be released later this spring, are always the greatest portion of our budget, and are non-negotiable.

— Steve Weisz, Chair
Carol Edelman and Kenn Basler
Monterey Select Board
(steve@montereyma.gov)
(carol@montereyma.gov)
(kenn@montereyma.gov)

For general inquiries, please click "Contact Us" at www.montereyma.gov.

DENNIS J. DOWNING
Attorney at Law

17 Mahaiwe Street
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Calendar

Every Tuesday: Cards and games, 1 p.m., community center.

Every Wednesday: Balance Review classes, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., community center.

Every Thursday: Dancersize, from 4 to 5 p.m., community center.

Through Saturday, March 3: Knox Gallery, Leslie Carsewell, *Intersections*.

Thursday, March 1: Town Yarners, 1 to 3 p.m., community center.

Saturday, March 3: Bidwell House history talk, *East Rock is Falling*. 10 a.m., at the community center. See page 19.

Tuesday, March 6: Discussion—Monterey School's future, 7 p.m., town hall. See page 4.

Friday, March 9: Knox Gallery opens Deborah Pressman's exhibition, *Lines in the Landscape*.

Saturday, March 10:

Garden planning workshop, 10 to 11:30 a.m., community center. See page 14.

Democratic town committee, 10:30 a.m., Monterey church basement. See page 2.

Sunday, March 11: Realize at 2 a.m. that life is just passing by as you spring forward an hour. Not to worry... you'll get it back in November.

Saturday, March 17: Lenox Contra Dance: Live Music with fiddle, accordian, piano, trumpet and banjo, calling by Jim Fownes. All dances taught. 8:30 to 11:30 p.m., beginners session at 8. Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker St. LenoxContraDance.org, or call 528-4007 for information.

To subscribe to a printable monthly calendar via email, write to montereynews9@gmail.com, and put "calendar email" in the subject line or text area. Print it (one page) and forward it.

Monday, March 19: Council on Aging: What are your ideas? Town hall, 10 a.m. See page 25.

Wednesday, March 21:

Community Potluck Supper, Monterey Meetinghouse, 6 p.m. See page 7.

Southern Berkshire Regional School District discussion re: Monterey School, 7 p.m., town hall. See page 4.

Saturday, March 24:

Rabies Clinic, 9 a.m. to noon, fire station. (Dog licenses due by May 1.) See page 2.

March for Our Lives, Northampton High School at noon. See page 10.

Monday, March 26: Adult book group discussing *State of Wonder*. Monterey Library, 7:30 p.m. See page 23.

Wednesday, March 28: Southern Berkshire Regional School District discussion re: Monterey School, 6 p.m., Mt. Everett School. See page 4.

Sunday, April 1: Egg hunt, Monterey Library, 1 p.m. Do not be late!

Thursday, April 5: Town Yarners, 1 to 3 p.m., community center.

Saturday, April 14:

Paint Your Home, painting workshop with Joe Baker. See page 14.

Knox Gallery reception for Deborah Pressman's *Lines in the Landscape*, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Town Contact Information Emergency! 911

Administrative Assistant:
528-1443 x111
admin@montereyma.gov
(for town boards and misc. questions)

Assessor: 528-1443 x115
assessors@montereyma.gov

Building Department: 528-1443 x118
buildingsafety@montereyma.gov

Community Center: 528-3600
center@ccmonterey.org

Fire Department (non-emergency):
528-3136
chief@montereyma.gov

Highway Department.: 528-1734
dpw1@montereyma.gov

Library: 528-3795
montereylibrary@gmail.com

Police Department (non-emergency):
528-3211, Alt./Emergency 528-3211
mpdchief@montereyma.gov

Post Office: 528-4670

Tax Collector: 528-1443 x117
montereytax@yahoo.com
(for questions about your tax bill)

Town Clerk: 528-1443 x113
clerk@montereyma.gov

Town website: Montereyma.gov, under each department, for office hours.

Monterey News

The *Monterey News* is an independent nonprofit corporation dedicated to fostering communication in the Monterey community. Our editorial address is PO Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite signed letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs. Submissions may also be sent to the email address below. Address requests for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone us at 413-528-4007 or email montereynews9@gmail.com.

Hockey Rink Schedule:

Free Skating: Figure skaters, families, and recreational skaters.

Sundays through Fridays, noon to 7 p.m.

Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Adult hockey:

Sundays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon, and 7 to 9 p.m.

Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30.

Skate responsibly!
Please shovel before you leave.

For updates—call Parks Dept. at 528-1443 x248 (voicemail), or

Facebook—Monterey MA Outdoor-Skating Rink

Maureen Banner

Corvus cristatus *(blue jay)*

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Mailing Labels ..... Joe Baker
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Contributions from local artists this month:
Pat Arnow, p. 5; Maureen Banner, p. 10;
George Emmons, p. 17; Bonner McAllester, p. 12.

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